

Alaska Workforce Investment Board  
Executive Committee  
Tuesday, December 9, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.  
Teleconference: 1-888-354-0094, Conference ID#4461969  
Meeting Minutes

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- **Call to Order** X Andy Baker, AWIB Chair; X Neal Foster, AWIB Vice Chair and PP/AE Chair/Legislative Chair; X Doug Ward, WR/EP Chair; \_\_Vacant, Youth Council Co-Chair

*Guests in attendance:* Tom Nelson, Director/ESD; Carol Collins, ESD; Linda Hulbert, board member; John Palmatier, board member; Chris Gregg, board member; Scott Clark, Lt. Governor's Designee; Cynthia Erickson, board member, Kathy Craft, board member

*Staff in attendance:* Greg Cashen, Executive Director, AWIB

- **Approval of Agenda**

Neal Foster made a motion to approve the agenda, Doug Ward seconded. Vote taken, MOTION passed.

- **Approval of Minutes – October 14<sup>th</sup>**

Doug Ward made a motion to approve the minutes with changes to his report adding the wording “priority occupations” to second to the last sentence and ending the sentence there. Neal Foster seconded the motion. Vote taken, MOTION passed.

- **Action Items**

1. October Election for Chair and Request for a New Election

John Palmatier and Linda Hulbert addressed the Executive Committee with their concerns that the October AWIB election for Chair and Vice Chair were not conducted correctly and that the elections need to be redone. See attached both of their letters contesting the election. After much discussion Doug Ward made a MOTION that we have another election by mail, secret ballot and that we follow the bylaws as approved by the Exco. No second. Question was asked by Doug for the Chair to take a vote. One vote yes. Two votes No. MOTION failed.

Neal Foster made a MOTION that we should do the additional research on the election process and then he retracted his motion. He asked if we should have another meeting or address this at the next full board meeting. They reviewed the list of board members who would be able to vote. Chair Baker suggested it be given to Policy & Planning for their next meeting and brought to the full board through the committee. Doug Ward explained



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that we need to resolve the issue immediately because we will be asking the Legislature to change our statutes and we need to have a clear election. We have two letters complaining about the process of the election. Linda Hulbert said that this is time sensitive and we need to solve this election issue now.

Doug Ward made a MOTION that he would draft up a procedure for a mail in election and that we have a special full board meeting by teleconference at the earliest possible date and this be the single agenda item. Neal Foster seconded. Vote taken, motion passed.

- **Discussion Items**

1. None at this time.

- **Reports**

1. Director – Greg Cashen
2. Chair – Andy Baker
3. Committees – Neal Foster and Doug Ward – Doug Ward said the October Exco minutes covered his committees, the employability skills met within the last couple weeks and the two task forces are meeting this afternoon – the industry training plan template and the employability skills. The health care industry test drove the training plan template and the committee is making a few changes.

- **Other Items:** Questions from AWIB Members

Fred Villa – I have put out for the Workforce Readiness committee just a very brief document referring to an initiative that the Commissioner has mentioned a number of times having to do with Programs of Excellence, the intent is that the AWIB would initiate and recognize programs of excellence that are at the highest level available in the State, that are in high demand and that the AWIB would identify and also advocate for with the responsibility on the recognized program as coordinating other training providers to work as feeder programs to do the preliminary skills standards associated with that program of excellence and be supportive.

- **Adjournment:** Next Ex Co Meeting January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Adjourn 11:16 a.m.



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**Cashen, Greg A (DOL)**

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**From:** lhulbert@gci.net  
**Sent:** Monday, November 10, 2008 2:29 PM  
**To:** Cashen, Greg A (DOL)  
**Subject:** Board Meeting Oct 28th

Greg Cashen  
Alaska Workforce Board  
November 10, 2008

I am concerned about the election process conducted at the Alaska Workforce Board meeting on October 28, 2008. As with all public boards, the election process should be conducted with clearly understood rules and understanding by all board members.

Prior to the board meeting, I sent in a written and signed proxy to the Workforce Board with the clear understanding my representative would be permitted to vote. It is my understanding that under the new by-law amendments to be passed prior to the election this was permissible. The Board by-law changes had been discussed at length, passed by the Executive Committee, and sent for prior review. Although all other by-laws were adopted, the election section was not.

Not only was my representative denied the opportunity to vote, but the process was, at best, confusing. One other representative had their proxy vote removed from the process after being permitted to vote.

Given this confusion I am requesting that this vote be put aside and another vote be conducted. As the Board will not be meeting in person until February, I would suggest that a paper ballot be sent to each board member. This would maintain confidentiality, solve this issue immediately and maintain our momentum.

Please understand this is an issue of due process. No matter who is Board Chair, it's important to have confidence in our decisions.

Linda Hulbert

**Cashen, Greg A (DOL)**

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**From:** John Palmatier [arcc@alaska.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2008 2:40 PM  
**To:** Cashen, Greg A (DOL)  
**Subject:** AWIB Election Challenge

Greg Cashen,

Unfortunately I feel I must challenge the election of board officers for the Alaska Workforce Investment Board held on October 28, 2008. I am not uncomfortable with the results of the election only the confusion and procedure that arrived at those results.

That election should be invalidated and a new election held.

A valid election was not achieved because of some irregularities including but not limited to:

- Confusion as to whether "designees" should be allowed to vote. One designee was allowed to vote while another was not.
- After the accumulation of the ballots it was decided that one vote that was cast was invalid (the designee that was allowed to vote). Rather than immediately re-doing the election the voter was asked how they voted and that vote was deducted. This violates the whole idea of a secret ballot and the voter could misstate their vote skewing the election.
- Not allowing designee voting yet allowing telephonic voting. It appears that telephonic voting is not allowed and, if it is, should have been clarified to those not in attendance of the meeting their right to vote telephonically.

A fair and impartial election process was not maintained. I am uncomfortable with the process as it happened. Past practice was not followed nor apparently were the By-Laws that regulate our Board.

Please consider this email my request to invalidate the previous election and to have a new election. If this is not the proper venue to challenge an election please notify me of the steps that must be taken to challenge the election.

**John A. Palmatier**  
(907) 274-2722 office  
(907) 240-6322 cell

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